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SUMMARY OF WORLD RADIO AND PRESS REACTION TO VICE PRESIDENT

NIXON'S VISIT TO THE USSR AND POLAND

West European comment in general expressed hope that the Vice President's tour would result in a measure of relaxation in East-West tensions, although some commentators were skeptical about the value of the trip in improving Soviet-American relations or in breaking the East-West deadlock on major issues. The subsequent announcement of the exchange of visits between President Eisenhower and Premier Khrushchev was highlighted in European comment to the virtual exclusion of final overall assessments of the contribution made by Mr. Nixon's trip to a world political detente. Nevertheless, commentators pointed out that the Vice President's favorable impact on the Soviet people would eventually benefit the free world, and that the significance of the enthusiastic Polish reception for Mr. Nixon could not have been lost on the leaders of the communist bloc. There were frequent references in European comment to Mr. Nixon's presidential aspirations, which were said to have been considerably enhanced by the Vice President's conduct in his public appearances with Khrushchev and before the Russian people.

In Latin America and the Middle East there was little monitored comment, but fairly thorough news coverage of the tour conveyed an impression of general approval.

Noncommunist Asian comment, though limited, was almost wholly favorable, with Indian and Japanese commentators giving full approval to the Vice President's efforts. The Taipei radio and press saw little accomplished

other than the furthering of Mr. Nixon's political fortunes and repeated the standard Chinese position that no good can come from dealings with the USSR.

Radio Moscow's coverage of Mr. Nixon's tours, visits, and receptions in the USSR was fairly extensive, but full publicity was not given his public statements. His replies to workers' "astward" questions on U.S. policy were scarcely reported; his side of the "kitchen debate" with Khrushchev was reported very summarily; his speech at the exhibition opening was not broadcast in Russian; and his TV address was relayed to the Soviet radio audience only by a minor channel of Moscow's home service.

Much of the Soviet propaganda surrounding the visit was designed to rebut Mr. Nixon's claims of U.S. prosperity and his defense of U.S. policies. The coincidence of Captive Nations Week was clearly a major irritant. Mr. Nixon's arguments on the need for U.S. bases abroad drew especially vigorous objections. In a few instances, the propaganda descended to personal attack.

Peiping broadcast scant reportage, derived from TASS dispatches, with no original comment.

Warsaw but not Moscow provided extensive publicity for Mr. Nixon's visit to Poland. The Polish home service broadcast his public statements in full.